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application of the principle of public defense are discussed at length by the author: 1. The "theoretical safeguards" surrounding the accused will be rendered more effective. 2. Cases will be more honestly and ably presented. 3. Manufactured defenses will be reduced. 4. Unfair discrimination will be eliminated. 5. Disreputable attorneys will be unable to prolong cases. 6. Pleas of "guilty" will be minimized. 7. The truth will be more available. 8. Expenses will be decreased. 9. The criminal courts will be improved. 10. Guilty persons will not receive excessive punishment. 11. Confidence in and respect for the law will be increased.

That the general utilization of the office of public defender will mean the democracy of justice, and that it will fulfill all the expectation of the author when he says: "After this long and costly denial of human rights, comes a tangible antidote in the form of a public defense, which gives every man, regardless of his race, creed or purse, an actual equality before the law" is not to be expected, but it cannot fail to bring about some much needed reforms. Harmonizing as it does with the modern science of penology it is destined to inspire greater confidence and respect for criminal procedure, and that will be a distinct gain.

The method is in the experimental stage and the experience of numerous cities throughout the country which have adopted it should be watched with interest. Since 1912 bills for the establishment of the office of public defender have been introduced in the legislature of fifteen states.

The book is propagandist rather than critical, but deserves the consideration of all those who regard criminal procedure not as a perfect organ of static society, but as a process continuously to be modified by the changing needs of a progressive society, and guided by the wisdom of experience and of scientific achievement in the treatment of the criminal.

J. P. Lichtenberger.

*Wharton School,
University of Pennsylvania.*

CASES ON THE LAW OF PERSONAL PROPERTY. By Harry A. Bigelow. Pp. XX, 404. St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1917.

This excellent volume of cases by Professor Bigelow is the first of five volumes in the American Case Book Series on the Law of Property and since the law of personal property is taught to first year students, it justifiably departs from the tradition, established by Gray and continued by Warren, of including the law relating to personal and real property in the same volume. Professor Bigelow seems to have been in doubt as to whether the cases dealing with rights of property based on possession should precede or follow those dealing with rights based on acquisition, and although like Professor Warren he prefers the former, he has arranged his case book so that those differing with him may first take up the topic of acquisition, following the method established by Gray.

A new feature is the inclusion of the topics of fixtures and emblements under the law of personal property. This is an arrangement that is justified

by the law peculiar to these legal categories and forms a stepping stone, as it were, leading into the law of real property.

Considering more particularly the arrangement of the subject matter of Professor Bigelow's book, it must be premised that any arrangement of cases is within certain limitations a reflection of the personal equation of the compiler. It is difficult to say that his arrangement which treats of rights acquired by adverse possession before rights acquired by judgment is better than Professor Warren's arrangement in which purchase at judicial sale precedes the statute of limitations. The old distinction clearly stated in Gray, between lawful and tortious confusion and indicated in Warren by the use of the title "Tortious Confusion" should have been retained instead of being eliminated in Professor Bigelow's collection under the general title of "Confusion." But after all such distinctions, as before stated, are based upon so purely personal a view that they are hardly open to criticism. It can only be said that one teacher prefers one arrangement and another teacher prefers another.

It is to be noted that Professor Bigelow's collection contains all the cases that have become well-known landmarks in the law of property, and although his book is published two years after Professor Warren's, it shows how little has been added to the law of personal property in latter years since most of the cases antedate the twentieth century. What might be termed the newer law relating to the subject of fixtures is illustrated by much more recent cases than that of other branches of the subject.

The book contains the admirable typography and broad margins that make the American Case Book Series such pleasant texts for the reader. The index is, as customary in case-books intended for students, suggestive rather than comprehensive. The practice of indicating by different typography in the table of cases, those that are printed as the text, cited in the foot notes and referred to in the text, is a commendable feature of this case book series.

David Werner Amram.

Law School, University of Pennsylvania.

THE LAW OF WILLS AND THE MANNER OF THEIR DRAFTING, EXECUTION, PROBATE AND CONTEST TOGETHER WITH TESTAMENTARY FORMS. By George W. Thompson. Pp. LXXXV, 1039.. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1916.

Provision ought to be made in every jurisdiction for judicial interpretation of a will before the testator's death, so that he would have an opportunity to explain what he meant by the all too frequent ambiguous language employed. But since that cannot be done in most states, the profession welcomes a good treatise on wills. In his preface, Mr. Thompson states that the aim of his book is to assist the busy lawyer; and the work contains many valuable and practical suggestions in the planning and drafting of wills.

The author has included a set of forms covering not only the common but also the unusual testamentary provisions, many of which are taken